

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 017347
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 017347

NODIS
FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 1165,:XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, PPDC, IV

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO CHIEF OF STATE

1. PLEASE RELAY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT
CARTER TO PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY:

QUOTE: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF MY IN-
AUGURATION AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. IT IS MY
HOPE THAT THE CLOSE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE IVORY
COAST AND THE UNITED STATES WILL ENDURE AND STRENGTHEN.
I WISH TO ASSURE YOU OF THE UNITED STATE'S GREAT INTEREST
IN THE FUTURE OF AFRICA AND MY DETERMINATION THAT THE USG
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WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH EXPERIENCED AND CONSTRUCTIVE
LEADERS IN DOING WHAT WE CAN TO ASSIST IN THE EFFORT TO
PROMOTE PEACE AND PROGRESS FOR ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE
CONTINENT. I APPRECIATE YOUR SHARING YOUR VIEWS WITH
US IN THE PAST AND LOOK FORWARD TO COOPERATION WITH YOU
IN THE FUTURE.

AS A MATTER OF IMMEDIATE ATTENTION, I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES REMAINS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE ARE FULLY COMMITTED TO CONTINUE THE SEARCH FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. MY ADMINISTRATION WILL CARRY ON THE EFFORTS ALREADY BEGUN TO BRING ABOUT PEACE AND JUSTICE IN THE REGION. IN THE FUTURE WE WILL USE OUR INFLUENCE AND GOOD OFFICES WHEREVER THEY MAY BE BEST APPLIED TO ACCOMPLISH THIS GOAL.

THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT ASSUME THAT THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WILL BE AN EASY ONE. DESPITE THESE DIFFICULTIES, WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO GIVE DIPLOMACY EVERY CHANCE TO WORK.

I HAVE ASKED SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE TO BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU SEPARATELY TO CONSULT ON FUTURE STEPS WE MIGHT TAKE, AND WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN WORK TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE SOLUTIONS FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA'S DIFFICULT PROBLEMS. SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. UNQUOTE.
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, PPDC, US, IV, WA, RH, (CARTER, JIMMY), (HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY, FELIX)
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